

State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK, HUMAN RIGHTS DAY AND BILL OF RIGHTS DAY

2008

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States was ratified in 1789 containing, in Article 1, protections of individual rights; and

WHEREAS the State of North Carolina declined to ratify the Constitution until a more complete set of rights was included; and

WHEREAS, Congress later drafted a comprehensive Bill of Rights which was ratified December 15, 1791; and

WHEREAS, this Bill of Rights has become a model for the constitutions of other nations and has been incorporated into the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; and

WHEREAS, on December 10, 1948, the members of the United Nations signed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and countries of different political, economic and social systems agreed on the fundamental rights that all people share solely on the basis of their humanity; and

WHEREAS, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights declares that "recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world;"

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim December 10-16, 2008, as "**HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK**" and December 10, 2008, as "**HUMAN RIGHTS DAY**" and December 15, 2008, as "**BILL OF RIGHTS DAY**" in North Carolina and urge our citizens to commend this observance.




MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this third day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.